

of an epidemic. The death rate is great and in a measure threatens to annul the will

SOME SENATE CHATTER

OLD RAILROAD LAND CLAIMS UN-EARTHED AND PASSED UPON.

Another Batch of Nominations for the Senate to Act Upon—Southern Men—Clark, Assistant Secretary—Jackson, Marshal of Texas—Notes.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Mr. Van Wyck offered a resolution directing the secretary of the interior and attorney-general to take action to prevent the sale by Atlantic Gulf West Indian transit company, or by any other company or person claiming under them, lands described in an act approved May 17, 1896, and entitled: "An act granting public lands in alternate section to the state of Florida and Alabama to aid in the construction of certain railroads in said states," so far as the same lie within the line of said railroads, between Wailes and Tampa bay, Florida, until congress shall have authorized the same.

At the request of Mr. Van Wyck, the resolution was permitted to lie on the table. Motion of Mr. Bryan, a resolution was adopted directing the committee on public buildings and grounds to inquire into the expediency of lighting the senate chamber by electricity, and report to the present session the cost of making the change.

Mr. Allison moved that the senate adjourn, when Mr. Morrill said he understood that a communication from the executive was about to be received.

Mr. Allison was glad to know his friend from Vermont had confidence in the executive, and upon his representation that a communication was likely to be received, he would withdraw the motion.

After a lapse of twenty minutes Assistant Secretary Frazier appeared and submitted a message in writing, which contained the following nominations:

Edward D. Clark, Mississippi, to be assistant secretary of the interior.

Sydney D. Jackson, Texas, to be marshal of the United States for the western district of Texas.

Lieut. Downs L. Wilson, junior grade, and Lieut. Ensign Henry T. Mayo, lieutenant junior grade.

The senate then went into executive session but without making any nominations, the doors reopened and the senate adjourned.

Immediately after the adjournment the republican caucus was held to receive the report of the committee appointed to arrange the committee.

A Legacy from Arthur.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Before President Arthur retired from the white house he gave such a good recommendation to his French cook, Chef Fortin, that President Cleveland has retained him in his service. Chef Fortin had a pretty busy time under President Arthur. He was liable to be called upon for a supper, always an extensive one, at any time of night, while there was no regularity about the daily meals. Breakfast was served to whomsoever was ready for it, at any time of the morning. Chef Fortin anticipated a little more regularity, as President Cleveland has given notice to everybody in his household to be ready for breakfast at exactly 8 o'clock. Evidently the new administration is going to change Washington hours somewhat.

Washington Notes.

WASHINGTON, March 12.—Senator Teller absent from senate, on motion Van Wyck, further consideration of a bill granted to New Orleans, Baton Rouge and Vicksburg railroad, was postponed until Friday.

The court martial appointed for the trial Brigadier-General Hays chief signal officer for conduct prejudicial to good order and military discipline, consisting of statements reflecting upon the secretary of war, convened and all the officers were present. The charges against Gen. Hays were: That he had been guilty of a personal and official controversy calculated to bring him into disrepute; that he had been guilty of disrespect and insubordination, the first being the statements in Gen. Hays's official report, questioning the propriety of the secretary's refusal to issue a second expedition for the relief of Greeley. The second that he made these and other criticisms, in a letter written to the secretary. The third is that he furnished for newspaper publication information concerning these criticisms. Counsel for Gen. Hays asked that the first two be ignored as irrelevant to the charge. After argument the specifications were sustained and court adjourned.

Congressional delegations from North Carolina, Florida and Kentucky waited upon the president to recommend appointments. Justice Harlan, Minister Foster and Senator Voorhees were also among the callers.

Good authority for the statement says that the president has decided to appoint J. S. Miller, of W. Va., commissioner of internal revenue. Mr. Miller is a prominent demagogue and has been auditor of his state for eight years.

Good grounds for believing Nicaragua and Spanish treaties be withdrawn.

A New Paper.

NEW YORK, March 12.—In an item recently published in several papers in this city it was stated there were projectors of an administration organ who bought the press and plant of the late Truth newspaper. This statement is pronounced as absolutely false. The plant has been secured by a company of gentlemen who propose publishing the Daily Telegraph, a thoroughly independent paper, and will advocate the policy of protection to American industry. It will be under the editorial management of Mr. Seneca, corresponding secretary of the association of American economists, with the assistance of Dr. Edward Young and other well known writers of Washington and New York. The first number of the Daily Telegraph is expected to appear on or about April 4.

NEW YORK, March 12.—Considerable interest is manifested in the report that Edward L. Stokes, of the Hoffman house, was chiefly instrumental in the change of receivers of the Bankers' and Merchants' Telegraph company. At a meeting of the bondholders a day or two ago it was stated that Mr. Stokes had advanced the company \$10,000 on receiver's certificates. Mr. Stokes represents, it is said, A. J. Baldwin, president, and J. Henry Miller, secretary of the Bankers' and Merchants' Telegraph Construction company.

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